

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: ¹ J
Office of General Counsel

SUBJECT: Review of Documents by Joseph Lynch,
Department of Justice

1. On 1 May 1980 I met with Mr. Joseph Lynch, trial attorney, Office of Special Investigations, DOJ, at my office for the purpose of permitting Mr. Lynch to review sanitized CIA files concerning Tscherim Soobzokov. Mr. Lynch had visited CIA on two previous occasions to review files on the subject, in July and December 1979. The undersigned was present throughout Mr. Lynch's review. J, C/IMS/FPLG, was present in the morning, and J, OS/SAG, was present in the afternoon. Mr. Lynch's review began with a three-volume set of materials provided by the Directorate of Operations. Mr. Lynch's immediate reaction was that he did not recognize the file and during the course of his review Mr. Lynch continued to comment that he either did not recall, or had never seen documents in the file. These included a cable, Amman 545, concerning Soobzokov's visa application and the application of another individual; our 16 November 1953 response to a State Department name trace request; and a 9 October 1957 PRQ containing a statement that Soobzokov's misrepresentations to INS could be used as an instrument of control over Soobzokov. I told Mr. Lynch that I could not understand his surprise, as I had been advised that the file he was reviewing was the same file he had reviewed previously. This point was reaffirmed by J, who added that the file had been created in December 1977; has not been added to or subtracted from since and was the same file which had been shown to Mr. Lynch previously. In spite of our statements, Mr. Lynch continued to give the impression that he was reviewing some documents for the first time. Later in the day, Mr. Lynch reviewed a portion of the sanitized file prepared by the Office of Security. Again, his initial reaction was that he did not recognize some of the documents in the file. J immediately advised Mr. Lynch that he had seen the file, and in fact had requested and was provided excerpted portions of the file.

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